





BHHC-4-1-25-2

**22. Anna Becker Park:**

Named for John Becker's late wife was originally a holding pond for irrigation run off water from John Becker's fields. In the winter it would freeze and locals would ice skate on it.

During the summer months it was a breeding place for Mosquitoes and was foul smelling. The land was donated to the Town of Belen by Becker. As a tribute to Mrs. Becker, who was the first Anglo Woman in Belen it was named for her.



**23. The Kuhn Hotel: (100 W. Reinken)**

Almost under the Reinken Overpass is the Kuhn Hotel. Built in 1906 by Ruth Kuhn a single mother. She operated the hotel with help from her children until 1940. The rooms were mostly used by railroad men during their lay over here waiting for the next train

The first public restroom was here at the Kuhn! This is the oldest surviving two story Adobe building in Belen, and possibly in the County.

Since 1940 the old building has changed hands several times. In the 1960's the current owner lived here when her Grandfather owned the hotel which was called the City Hotel then. She has been restoring the building but is in need of a new roof which should preserve the Kuhn until the restoration can be completed.

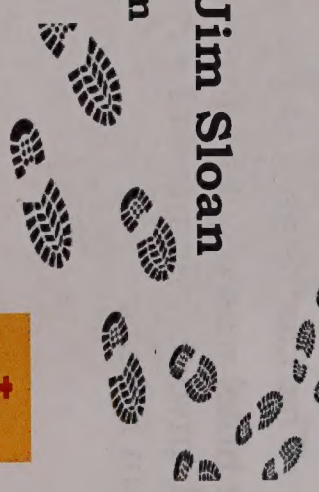
**BELLEN'S HISTORIC  
WALKING TOUR**



Shoe-Leather-Safari



**Presented by  
Local Historian, Jim Sloan  
Harvey House Museum  
505-861-0581**



## THE HISTORIC BELEN WALKING TOUR

### 1. Central Hotel: (114 Becker Ave.)

Built in 1909, after the Belen Cut-Off brought a surge of newcomers to town.

Some of the many businesses that have been in the old hotel:

Platter's Brothers Cafe

Midway Market

Barbershop

Harry's Lounge 1950

Leo's Pool Hall 1960

The Caboose Bar 1965

The Wagon Wheel Bar 1972

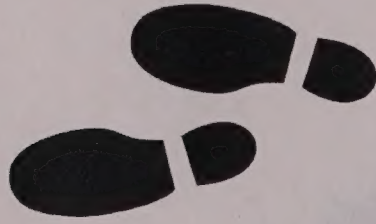
Several movies have been filmed with the Central as backdrop or the interior.

Bunny O'Hare 1970

Swing Vote

The Last Stand as Irv's Diner

The hotel was used by railroaders, travelers, and anyone who needed a room while staying in Belen.



Across the street on the **(North East corner of Dalties & 5th Streets)** is the **"L.I. Brown House"** built before 1903 and thought to be a mail order catalog house. Earlier it was the residence of the Ellermeier Family, again from the Feil and Ellermeier Store where the building survives on South Main St.

This beautiful house was restored to it's original condition by the current owner Ronnie Torres. Ronnie was former Mayor and newly elected City Councilor. He also owns Hair Innovations here in Belen.

Turning left on 5<sup>th</sup> Street and right on Reinken Avenue.

### 20. The Women's Club building:

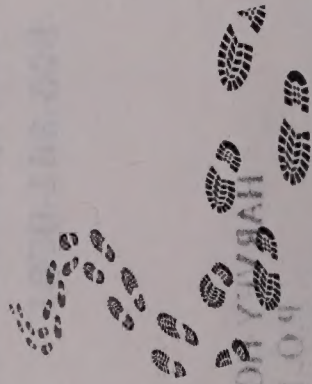
**(631 N. 5th Street)** The first Belen Women's Club, now Amor Flowers. This building built in the 1930's and paid for by the Belen Women's Club, was also the first public Library.

### 21. The Lutheran Church: (315 W Reinken Ave.)

Across Reinken Avenue on the corner of 6<sup>th</sup> street and Reinken is the building that on February 12, 1911 was dedicated as the Zionist Lutheran Church. John Becker and his wife, Anna Vielstich Becker, donated the land and most of the costs to build the Church

In 1922 several Protestant churches banded together to form the Belen Federated Community Church of Christ in this building. The last church to use this building was the First United Presbyterian Church.

In 2000 the Presbyterian Church moved into their newly built building in Rio Communities, the old church building was sold and became a funeral parlor.



MUSEUM 12101 CHURCH  
101 101 101  
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**17. Just to the North of Buckland's Pharmacy (607 Gobel Ave.)** Masonic building. In 1903 the Belen Commercial Club was founded and built a two story brick building on this site. In the rear of the building was a two lane bowling Alley. The Commercial club dissolved around 1918, and in 1920 the newly formed Masonic Chapter rented the building. They bought the building in

**18. Heading East on Dalies Avenue** on the left side are a couple of the houses that John Becker had built about 1903. Belen had a housing shortage when Mr. Becker formed The Belen Town and Improvement Company, and started selling lots. Any of the houses that Mr. Becker sold or rented were hooked up to his private water system, and most could also have access to his telephone system. Both of which must have been a big incentive to anyone looking for a house.

**19. The Brown residence: (NE corner of Dallies & 5th Streets),** and The Lions club house: On the SW. corner of Dalies Ave. and 5<sup>th</sup> Street is the House that Paul Feil, partner in the Feil and Ellermeyer Store once owned. Now known as The Lions Club House.

## **2. The Hotel Belen: (200 Becker Ave.)**

Built by John Becker around 1907. Bertha Rutz from Ripon Wisconsin, had moved to Belen to become the Becker's nanny. She became owner-operator of the hotel until her death.

The hotel was constructed from bricks that were made here in Belen.

Home-cooked meals were served daily in the front lobby to all guests staying at the hotel.

After several owners, and at times vacant, the Hotel was purchased by artist, Judy Chicago and her husband, photographer Donald Woodman, who together restored the hotel and made it their home.

Like the Central hotel, it has been seen in many movies filmed here in Belen.



### **2b. E. Garcia Meat Market: (112 Becker Ave.)**

Around 1910 Estanislado and his wife Barbita bought the George Witzel property on Becker Ave. and opened a meat market and grocery store. On the east side of the store was their home. Just behind the store is a building that has several small rooms that they rented out to railroaders. Eva Garcia-Glidewell operated the store for many years. She was known for her chili, which is still sold today.



### **3. The Sugar Bowl Bowling Lanes Building: (Becker & 2nd Streets)**

Originally named after its builders Pat Gibson and Ed Eucker. G and E Bowling Alley opened in September 25, 1945, boasting seven lanes.

Marvin Glidewell (known as Sugar) and Jimmie Jacobs bought the Bowling Alley from Pat and Ruth Gibson in 1954, and in 1956 Jimmie sold his part to Marvin "Sugar" Glidewell. Sugar renamed the bowling alley Sugar Bowl Lanes. The Sugar Bowl was known for having the oldest pin setting machines that were still in use. The movie *Swing Vote* was filmed inside the Sugar Bowl, and it has been seen in many movies. The bowling Alley has been closed since about 2007. Both Sugar and his wife Eva have passed on but both will be remembered for years to come.

### **16. Buckland Pharmacy: (600 Dalies Ave.)**

Started by Brothers Roy and Nelson Buckland in 1908. A new building was constructed next to the original building to the East in 1919. The original name was Buckland Bros. Drug Store and was changed in 1928 to Buckland Pharmacy after Nelson Buckland was killed in an auto accident. Elmer Atwood purchased the Drug Store in 1950 and kept the Buckland name.

In 1979 Richard Brower bought the business from Atwood and still owns and operates the Pharmacy. Today it is still Buckland Pharmacy. The current building was built in 1971 on the same spot as the 1919 building.

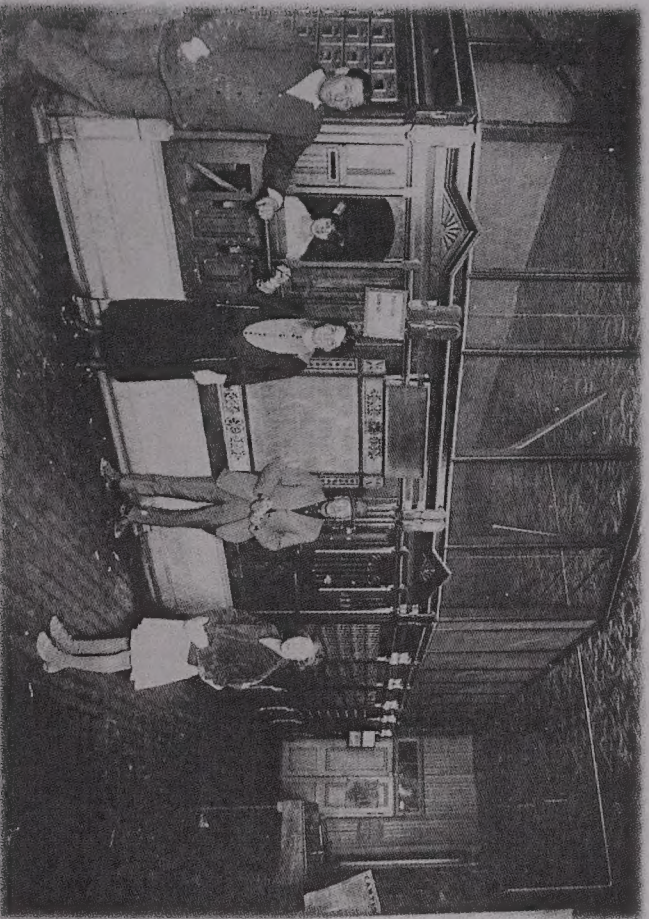


#### **15. The 3rd Post Office in Belen: (702 Dalies Ave.)**

The first Post Office was probably in the L-H Huning store in 1873 and John Becker was the Post Master, a post he held until 1913. After Becker built his own store, the Post Office was moved into his store, making it the second location.

This building was built sometime around 1913, and severed as the 3rd post office for Belen until 1950 when a new building was built on South Main street.

For years this building was the Law office of Mayo T. Boucher a longtime Legislator, and District Judge.



#### **4. Central Market: (218 Becker Ave. Vacant lot)**

Was owned by Harry and Pearl Auge was opened in 1923. Harry had tried to buy property here in town to open his market, but John Becker, the President of the Belen Town and Improvement Company, didn't welcome any business that would be competing with his business that sold almost anything and everything. Now only a memory the building was located across the street from the bowling alley.

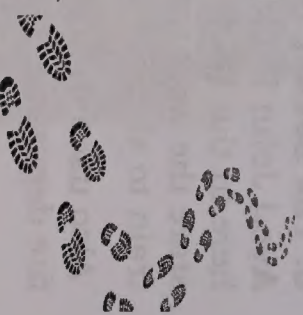
In 2013 the building was destroyed by heavy rains. The owners tried to save the old building, but the rains had caused too much damage to the adobe building. Now there is a parking lot where this historic building once stood.

#### **5. The Old City Hall Building: (503 Becker Ave.)**

**Now on the National Historic Register**

Built in 1938 out of adobe. This building was one of President Roosevelt's federal Works Progress Administration (WPA) projects. The Police Department and Fire Department were also housed in this building.

During the filming of the "Last Stand" in 2012 which starred Arnold Schwarzenegger, the building was used as the Sommerton Junction, Arizona Sheriff's office.



### **6. The Water Tower: (Becker & 6th Streets)**

The Belen Water Tower was erected in 1928 by The New Mexico Construction Company of Albuquerque. The tower was manufactured by the nations leading producer of Water Towers, The Chicago Bridge and Iron Company. The 100,000 gallon water tower was in use by 1929.

The light on top of the water tower was used by the local police department before radios to let the patrolman know that he was to report to the police station.

In the 1970s, due to leaks and newer, larger ground water tanks on the west side of town the Water Tower was retired. Now it stands as a Belen landmark. The old Tower has been seen in many movies and TV series that were filmed here.

### **7. The first Belen Village (City) Hall**

**(601 Becker Ave. & today a parking lot)** City Hall once stood on the corner of Becker Avenue and Sixth street. The building that was torn down in the 1980s. It was also the location of Harrell's Bakery.

### **8. The Becker Wool Warehouse: (607 Becker**

**Ave.)** John Becker was the largest buyer of wool here in the 1800's. This building was once used to store the wool until there was enough wool to fill a train to ship it to Texas.

Also used in several lumber yards, as the Belen fire department, and now the Police department.

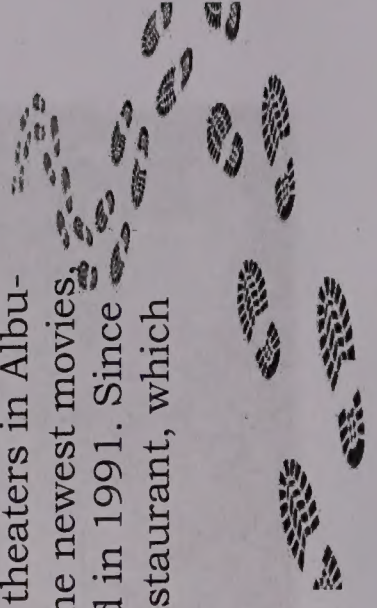
### **13. The Cut-Off Saloon: (718 Dalies Ave.)**

Built around 1909 and named for the railroad route, called The Belen Cut off that runs through the Abo Canyon. The Cutoff was the most significant event in the history of Belen as it brought people, new business, and money which was rarely seen here in the County before.

The Saloon was on the West side of the building, and the East side was a barber shop. Now the Greater Belen Chamber of Commerce office is located in the building.

### **14. The Onate Theater: (710 Dalies Ave.)**

Built in 1940 was one of two theaters in Belen and had a seating capacity of 600. Also, there was a stage and dressing room, that in the early days of the theater various events, including beauty pageants, were held on the stage. There have been a handful of owners through the years, but because of larger movie theaters in Albuquerque that featured the newest movies, the Onate theater closed in 1991. Since then it was used as a restaurant, which closed a few years ago.



**11. Belen Roller Mill: (100 S. Main Street & today current City Hall)** Another of John Becker's many businesses. Built in 1884 to process the local crops. The Mill was steam powered, and could process 100 barrels of flour a day. By 1907 the Mill was enlarged and was one of the largest Mills in NM. The Mill could now produce 150 barrels of flour per day. The Old Mill was torn down in the early 1950's

**12. The Frederick Scholle Store:** Just South of the site of the Becker store is the Scholle Building, now known as Thompson Square, named after the current owners.

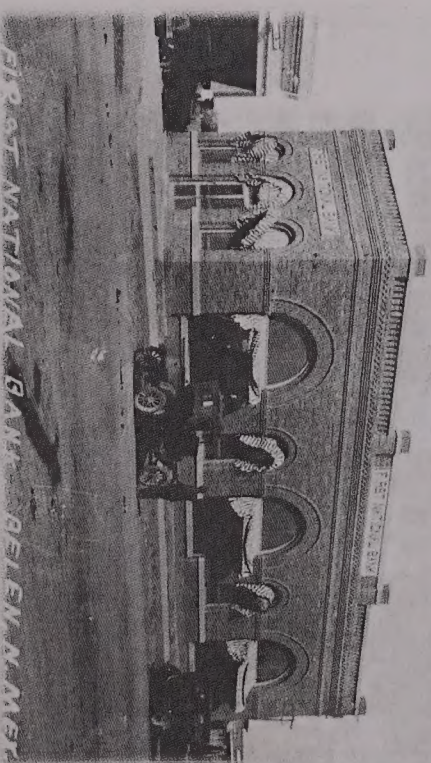
The building was constructed in 1879, and was said to resemble a Swiss Chalet. It was pale blue in color and had a wide covered porch on three sides. Also had a cupola in the center of the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor roof. Lightning struck the building in 1899 resulting in a fire that completely destroyed the building.

Almost immediately Fred started to rebuild the store. In 1900 the store was open for business again. Rebuilt pretty much as it is today. This building is the oldest business building still in use today.



**9. The 1914 First National Bank (634 Becker Ave. but torn down)** Bank of Belen building was located at the intersection where Becker Ave., Dalies Ave. and Main Street meet. The First National Bank of Belen was the first bank in Valencia county. John Becker opened the bank in 1903 in his store. The next location was just north of Becker's store. In 1914 the bank moved into the brick building that once stood here. In the early 1960's the bank moved across Becker Avenue to the south in a bigger building, which today is Belen's City Hall.

The First National Bank of Belen moved one final time back to the very first location where it opened in 1903. The four story building which is the Wells Fargo Bank today is located on the site of the John Becker store, and was the fifth location of The First National Bank of Belen. The Bank was sold in 1996, seven years short of 100 years.



## 10. John Becker's Store: (101 Main Street & location of Wells Fargo)

In 1877 John Becker, a German immigrant, left his job as manager for the L and H Huning company a block north of here to open his own store.

His store started as a one-story adobe building. In 1897 Becker added on a brick two-story addition to the south side of the store, making it one of the largest mercantile businesses in the area. Again in 1917 the store was rebuilt to match the earlier brick addition making it a large two-story brick building that sold everything from caskets to food.

In 1927 the name was changed to The Becker-Dalies company, when his nephew Paul B. Dalies was made Vice-President.

In 1977, 100 years since it opened, the store closed it's doors for the last time. The building was razed in the 1980's to make room for the four-story building that stands here today.



*Is this magazine in place?*

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# Walking Tour of Historic Becker Street Buildings

By

Ronnie Torres Museum Technician

Belén Harvey House Museum

June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014

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A giant arch was also built to replicate the front of the 1<sup>st</sup> National Bank of Belen, which was built on that location in 1914 and eventually torn down in the 60's.

The Heart of Belen Plaza is used year round for festivals, weddings and other community based events.

2006

# Heart of Belen

Downtown Revitalization  
★ Project



## Ribbon Cutting Celebration

Sunday, March 26

12:00 noon

The New Heart of Belen Plaza

Celebration held in conjunction with  
Belen's 5th Annual Mardi Gras & Spring Fest Celebration  
Parade Begins at 11 am and Entertainment concludes at 3 pm





Looking East on Becker Street  
Picture was taken during the  
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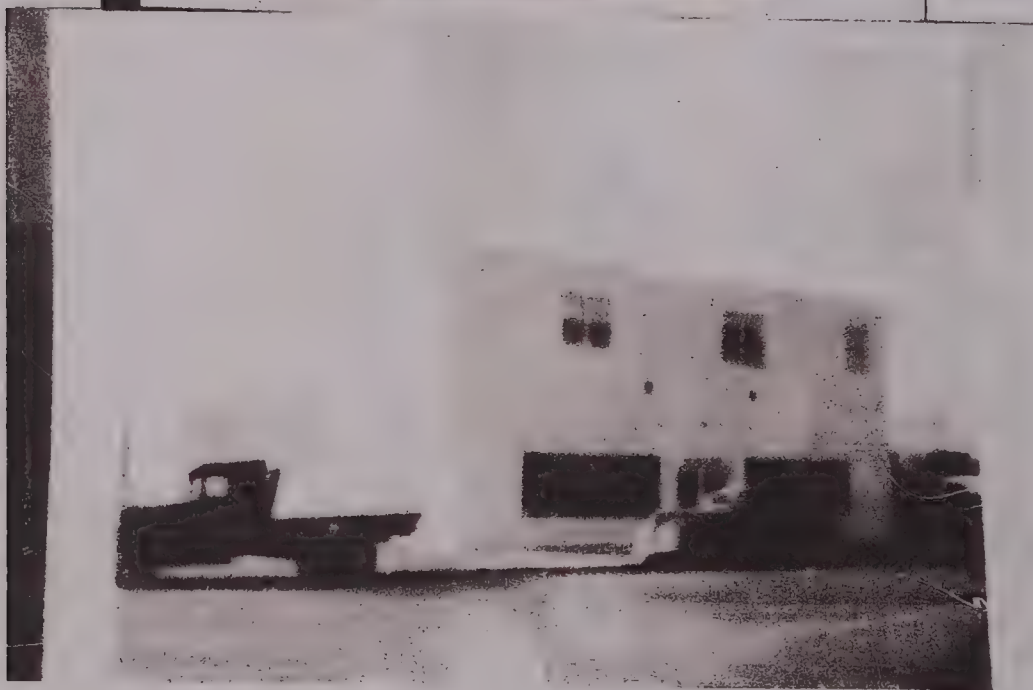
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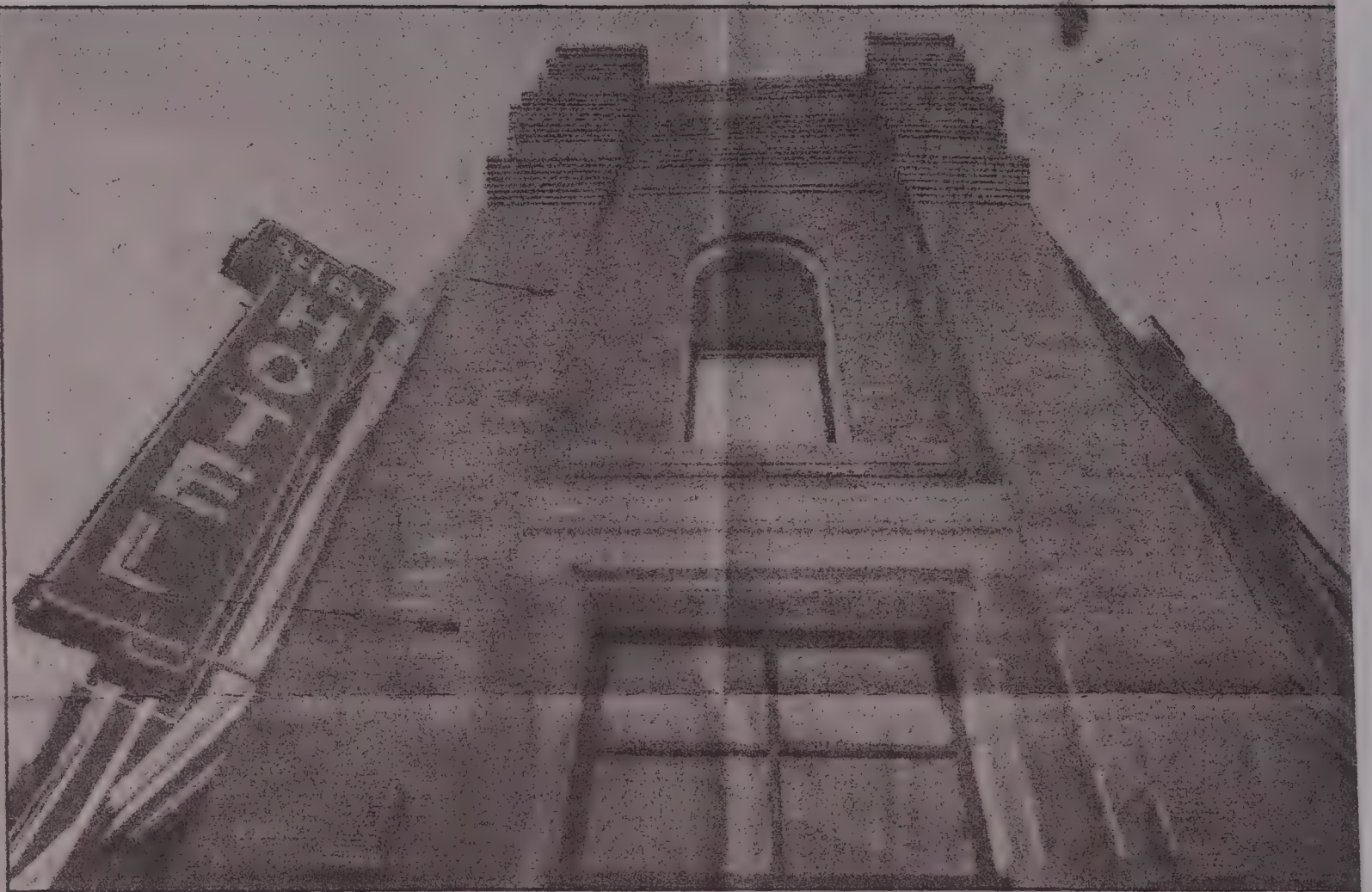
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Notice on the left the two story hotel; this is one of the only known photos of this hotel. It was said to of burned down early on.

Notice on right the Central Hotel, Belen Hotel.

June 18, 1980

...Historical Society.



DON ARMSTRONG/FOR THE JOURNAL

**RESTORED:** Much of the Belen Hotel's rehabilitation effort went toward its masonry. The hotel was built in 1907 to serve rail travel.

**BELLEN**

# HOTEL'S INCREDIBLE SAGA



DON ARMSTRONG/FOR THE JOURNAL

**INTERIORS:** Donald Woodman brought his expertise in architecture to hotel's renovation.

## Couple, Native Son Restore Building

BY ARLEY SANCHEZ

Journal Staff Writer

**T**his little railroad town seems an unlikely place for internationally renowned artist Judy Chicago and her husband, photographer Donald Woodman, to settle, but the couple saw a chance to preserve a local treasure and make it their own.

Three years ago, the couple bought a deteriorating red brick hotel built in 1907 by German immigrant Bertha Rutz and transformed it into a warm, inviting home

and private studio.

They did it with the help of a much native son, Trinnie Mascareña, a mason brickmason who was at first dubious taking on such a massive project, but adopted it as his life-defining work. Mascareña died of a heart attack in September 1995 before he could see his masterpiece finished.

On Sunday, Chicago and Woodman open their home to friends and neighbors when the Belen Hotel is featured in a

See **BELLEN** on PA

# Belen Hotel To Be Opened for Tour

PAGE 1

of historic buildings sponsored by the Valencia County Historical Society.

Sitting on an elevated wooden deck added to the west side of the hotel, Woodman told the story of how he and Judy, who was out of town this week, came to live in Belen.

"We were living in Santa Fe working on this major project we were about to complete," Woodman said, adding that the lease on their home was about to expire.

"Judy wasn't so sure that she wanted to stay in New Mexico, but I had been here since 1972 and I didn't want to leave," he said. "We knew we didn't want to stay in Santa Fe because it had become too rich. The town I had known as friendly, small and local had attracted too many people who had their own vision about what New Mexico should be, and then they built it."

The couple looked in the Rio Grande Valley and found the hotel. They bought it and then began an "incredible saga" of trying to secure the financing to renovate it. Woodman credits the New Mexico Historic Preservation Division of the Office of Cultural Affairs and the First State Bank as key backers.

The couple agreed to keep the hotel's three defining characteristics: its decorative red-brick facade with parapets, a main indoor stairway and hall, and more than 20 original doors to the hotel rooms. The rooms themselves were reconfigured to fit the couple's living and work needs.

The building suffered over the years from general neglect, arson, vandalism, and a leaking roof. The east wall of the structure was so weakened by water damage and vandalism that it was near collapse. Before the work could begin, the couple had to find a good brickmason.

"I asked around and everybody said, 'You need to talk to Trinnie Mascareña,'" Woodman said.

Woodman found Mascareña.

And he found that Mascareña was particular about the jobs he chose.

"I kept pestering him," Woodman said. "I told him we've got this project and I heard he was the best mason in town. I finally got him to come over and we walked around the building. All the time, he was shaking his head and saying, 'I don't know. This is a big project.'"

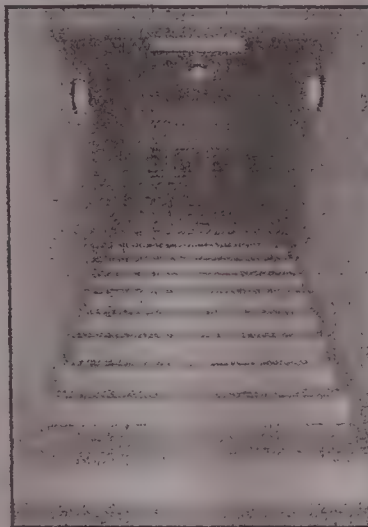
Mascareña was a musician and a former high school star running back. Most of all, he had gained a reputation as a master craftsman. Mascareña was posthumously honored in May for his work on the hotel with a New Mexico Heritage Preservation Award, given by the Historic Preservation Division.

Woodman, a professional photographer who has a background in architecture and construction, worked "shoulder to shoulder" with Mascareña.

"We became really good friends," Woodman said. "I was really heart-broken when he died. I don't think this project would have been completed without him."

As Woodman leads a visitor on a tour of the 7,000-square-foot hotel, he says that although it was wired for electricity in 1907, there was no power in Belen until much later. Kerosene lamps lit the rooms. Heat came from a coal furnace through steam radiators. The building had no plumbing. A hand pump in the kitchen kept water barrels filled.

Today, brilliant sunshine spills from a large skylight overlooking the central stairway leading from the front door. The original wood floors have been stripped, washed and varnished. The original windows have been rebuilt and painted. A "mystery door to nowhere" is on the second floor. It opens directly over the sidewalk below. Woodman speculated the original owner may have planned to build a balcony overlooking the street but never did. Examples of the couple's artwork and photography hang on the walls. Romeo, the couple's large cat, roams like a prince through a



DON ARMSTRONG FOR THE JOURNAL

**GRACEFUL ASCENT:** One of the hotel's defining characteristics respected by the renovation project is its main stairway.

castle.

Woodman said he hopes the restoration of the hotel will spark similar rejuvenations in downtown Belen, which has a collection of historical buildings, such as the red-bricked Central Hotel across the street and the Harvey House, one of the last of the chain of hotels built along the Santa Fe Railway's route.

"In the three years that I've been working down here, a lot of positive things have already happened to this end of town," Woodman said.

Townpeople often dropped by while the work was progressing to tell stories about the hotel. People told about playing at a pool hall across the street. One person said his parents spent their honeymoon at the hotel.

Woodman said he and Chicago have made many friends in Belen.

"We've had good experiences with everybody we've met in town. We know all our neighbors and everybody looks out for each other. You don't get that everywhere," Woodman said. "This is where we live and work. This is where we're going to stay."

## Tour Planned As Fund-Raiser

The Valencia County Historical Society is hosting a fund-raising historic house and hotel tour Sunday.

Tours will be held at the Luna Mansion, home of Solomon Luna, the most powerful man at the New Mexico state Constitutional Convention of 1910; the Felipe Chavez Hacienda, the remodeled home of the Santa Fe Trail merchant known as "The Millionaire;" the Belen Hotel, famous railroad hotel newly remodeled by artists Judy Chicago and Donald Woodman; and the Belen Harvey House, one of the last Harvey Houses in the Southwest.

The Luna Mansion is near the intersection of NM 314 and Main Street in Los Lunas. There is a 1 p.m. tour that's only open to the first 35 people.

The Chavez Hacienda is west of North Main Street in Belen, behind the Luna Chevy auto dealership. Tour times are every half hour starting at 1:30, with the last at 3:30 p.m.

The Belen Hotel is near Becker Avenue and Second Street in Belen. Tour times are on the half hour, starting at 1 to 3:30 p.m.

The Harvey House is at the east end of Becker Avenue in Belen. Tour times are on the half hour beginning at 1, with the last at 3:30 p.m.

The historical society's annual awards ceremonies will be held at 4 p.m. at the Tierra del Sol Country Club in Rio Communities. Cost of the tour is \$12 to the public and \$10 to Historical or Genealogical Society members. Honorees this year are Eleanor M. Hawley, recipient of the Red Brick Award, and John S. Aragon, who will receive the Rio Abajo Award.

For more information, call 925-8620.



Interior of Castillo Grocery Store later becoming E. Garcia Grocery best known for Eva's Blue Ribbon Chile



Silver Café now owned and being used as  
storage for red chilé by Petes Cafe



The Kuhn Hotel was built around 1909 by Ruth Kuhn who came here from Missouri via covered wagon.

Ruth purchased land from John Becker where she built a restaurant east of where the Hotel stands today. She eventually saved enough money to build the 24 room Hotel.

Ruth lived down where there was also a kitchen and dining room, Ruth provided one meal a day family style (foods on the stove come and get it)

Coal heated the hotel as late as the 60's.

The hotel was retro fitted in the 50's to include wash basins and small kitchenettes in the rooms which were rented to local Rail Roaders.

The hotel closed in 1972 under the management of Oliver Bias-the grandfather of the current owner Joanie Antiaga.

Joanie- hopes to some day to bring the Kuhn Hotel back to its glory days.



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of historic buildings sponsored by the Valencia County Historical Society.

Sitting on an elevated wooden deck added to the west side of the hotel, Woodman told the story of how he and Judy, who was out of town this week, came to live in Belen.

"We were living in Santa Fe working on this major project we were about to complete," Woodman said, adding that the lease on their home was about to expire.

"Judy wasn't so sure that she wanted to stay in New Mexico, but I had been here since 1972 and I didn't want to leave," he said. "We knew we didn't want to stay in Santa Fe because it had become too rich. The town I had known as friendly, small and local had attracted too many people who had their own vision about what New Mexico should be, and then they built it."

The couple looked in the Rio Grande Valley and found the hotel. They bought it and then began an "incredible saga" of trying to secure the financing to renovate it. Woodman credits the New Mexico Historic Preservation Division of the Office of Cultural Affairs and the First State Bank as key backers.

The couple agreed to keep the hotel's three defining characteristics: its decorative red-brick facade with parapets, a main indoor stairway and hall, and more than 20 original doors to the hotel rooms. The rooms themselves were reconfigured to fit the couple's living and work needs.

The building suffered over the years from general neglect, arson, vandalism, and a leaking roof. The east wall of the structure was so weakened by water damage and vandalism that it was near collapse. Before the work could begin, the couple had to find a good brickmason.

"I asked around and everybody said, 'You need to talk to Trinnie Mascareña,'" Woodman said.

Woodman found Mascareña.

And he found that Mascareña was particular about the jobs he chose.

"I kept pestering him," Woodman said. "I told him we've got this project and I heard he was the best mason in town. I finally got him to come over and we walked around the building. All the time, he was shaking his head and saying, 'I don't know. This is a big project.'"

Mascareña was a musician and a former high school star running back. Most of all, he had gained a reputation as a master craftsman. Mascareña was posthumously honored in May for his work on the hotel with a New Mexico Heritage Preservation Award, given by the Historic Preservation Division.

Woodman, a professional photographer who has a background in architecture and construction, worked "shoulder to shoulder" with Mascareña.

"We became really good friends," Woodman said. "I was really heart-broken when he died. I don't think this project would have been completed without him."

As Woodman leads a visitor on a tour of the 7,000-square-foot hotel, he says that although it was wired for electricity in 1907, there was no power in Belen until much later. Kerosene lamps lit the rooms. Heat came from a coal furnace through steam radiators. The building had no plumbing. A hand pump in the kitchen kept water barrels filled.

Today, brilliant sunshine spills from a large skylight overlooking the central stairway leading from the front door. The original wood floors have been stripped, washed and varnished. The original windows have been rebuilt and painted. A "mystery door to nowhere" is on the second floor. It opens directly over the sidewalk below. Woodman speculated the original owner may have planned to build a balcony overlooking the street but never did. Examples of the couple's artwork and photography hang on the walls. Romeo, the couple's large cat, roams like a prince through a



DON ARMSTRONG FOR THE JOURNAL

**GRACEFUL ASCENT:** One of the hotel's defining characteristics respected by the renovation project is its main stairway.

castle.

Woodman said he hopes the restoration of the hotel will spark similar rejuvenations in downtown Belen, which has a collection of historical buildings, such as the red-bricked Central Hotel across the street and the Harvey House, one of the last of the chain of hotels built along the Santa Fe Railway's route.

"In the three years that I've been working down here, a lot of positive things have already happened to this end of town," Woodman said.

Townpeople often dropped by while the work was progressing to tell stories about the hotel. People told about playing at a pool hall across the street. One person said his parents spent their honeymoon at the hotel.

Woodman said he and Chicago have made many friends in Belen.

"We've had good experiences with everybody we've met in town. We know all our neighbors and everybody looks out for each other. You don't get that everywhere," Woodman said. "This is where we live and work. This is where we're going to stay."

## Tour Planned As Fund-Raiser

The Valencia County Historical Society is hosting a fund-raising historic house and hotel tour Sunday.

Tours will be held at the Luna Mansion, home of Solomon Luna, the most powerful man at the New Mexico state Constitutional Convention of 1910; the Felipe Chavez Hacienda, the remodeled home of the Santa Fe Trail merchant known as "The Millionaire;" the Belen Hotel, famous railroad hotel newly remodeled by artists Judy Chicago and Donald Woodman; and the Belen Harvey House, one of the last Harvey Houses in the Southwest.

The Luna Mansion is near the intersection of NM 314 and Main Street in Los Lunas. There is a 1 p.m. tour that's only open to the first 35 people.

The Chavez Hacienda is west of North Main Street in Belen, behind the Luna Chevrolet dealership. Tour times are every half hour starting at 1:30, with the last at 3:30 p.m.

The Belen Hotel is near Becker Avenue and Second Street in Belen. Tour times are on the half hour, starting at 1 to 3:30 p.m.

The Harvey House is at the east end of Becker Avenue in Belen. Tour times are on the half hour beginning at 1, with the last at 3:30 p.m.

The historical society's annual awards ceremonies will be held at 4 p.m. at the Tierra del Sol Country Club in Rio Communities. Cost of the tour is \$12 to the public and \$10 to Historical or Genealogical Society members. Honorees this year are Eleanor M. Hawley, recipient of the Red Brick Award, and John S. Aragon, who will receive the Rio Abajo Award.

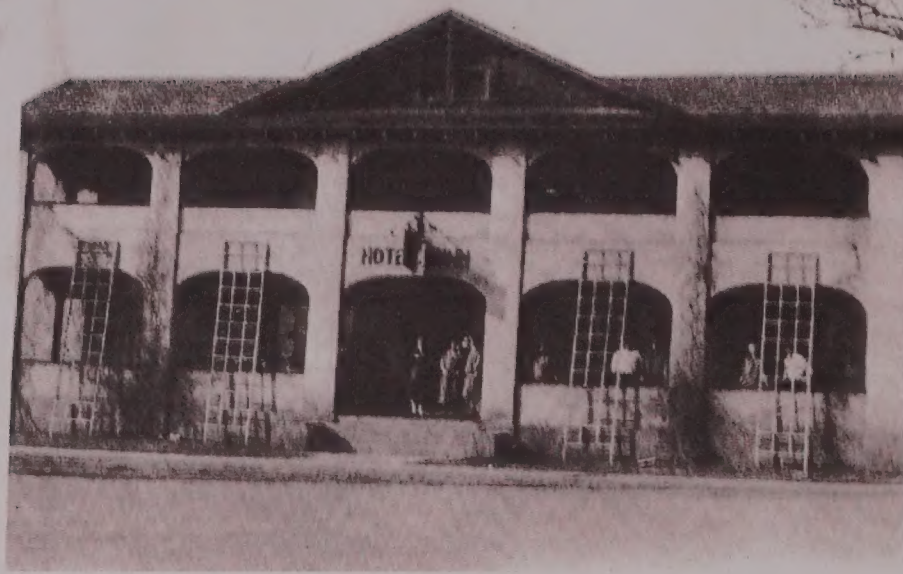
For more information, call 925-8620.



Interior of Castillo Grocery Store later becoming E. Garcia Grocery best known for Eva's Blue Ribbon Chile



Silver Café now owned and being used as  
storage for red chilé by Petes Cafe



The Kuhn Hotel was built around 1909 by Ruth Kuhn who came here from Missouri via covered wagon.

Ruth purchased land from John Becker where she built a restaurant east of where the Hotel stands today. She eventually saved enough money to build the 24 room Hotel.

Ruth lived down where there was also a kitchen and dining room, Ruth provided one meal a day family style (foods on the stove come and get it)

Coal heated the hotel as late as the 60's.

The hotel was retro fitted in the 50's to include wash basins and small kitchenettes in the rooms which were rented to local Rail Roaders.

The hotel closed in 1972 under the management of Oliver Bias-the grandfather of the current owner Joanie Antiaga.

Joanie- hopes to some day to bring the Kuhn Hotel back to its glory days.

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Tourism and Planning Unit

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